



## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Nobuko OKADA et al.

Application No.: 09/977,339

Filed: October 16, 2001

Docket No.: 110891

For: INK-JET RECORDING APPARATUS AND MANUFACTURING METHOD FOR FUNCTIONAL LIQUID APPLIED SUBSTRATE

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

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Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2, lines 4-9, delete current paragraph and insert therefor:

In Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open No. H11-58704, however, compensation data must be produced for each nozzle, an operation which involves time and trouble. Also, because it is necessary to provide drive voltage control means separately for each nozzle, the circuit configuration must of necessity be made complex.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 5, 6, 9, 10 and 12 as follows:

5. (Amended) The ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein positions on ink jet head on which said plurality of nozzles is arranged are divided into a plurality of areas, and nozzles belonging to each area are made to belong to a single group.